

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims: Claims 1-18 are now in this application. Claims 1 and 10, the only independent claims, have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at page 5, line 22 - page 6, line 1. The following discussion will focus on claims 1 and 10.

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,949,926 to Davies ("Davies"). Davies discloses a "Minimum Phase Dispersion Compensator" that is limited for use with single sideband signals. (Col. 3, line 15- Col. 4, line 44.) Claims 1 and 10 of the present application have been amended to include that that present invention is directed to a method of and apparatus for compensating for chromatic dispersion of an amplitude modulated, optical signal. The claims as amended are distinguished over Davies. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraws the rejections of these claims and allows them to issue.

The addition of U.S. patent No. 5,638,439 to Kawada et al, ("Kawada") does not the cancel the deficiencies of Davies with respect to the amended claims.

Claims 2-9 and 11-18 depend from claims 1 and 10 respectively. Accordingly these claims are novel over Davies for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Applicant respectfully acknowledges the citation of U.S. patent Nos. 6,487,352 to Sobiski and the article by Yonenaga et al entitled "A Fiber Chromatic Dispersion Compensation Technique with an Optical SSB Transmission in Optical Homodyne Detection System" but these references are not deemed to detract form the patentability of the present claims as amended.

No new matter has been added.

This response attends to each point noted by the Examiner. The claims are proper and allowable. Allowance is accordingly in order and respectfully requested. However, should the

Examiner deem that further clarification of the record is in order, we invite a telephone call to Applicant's attorney, to expedite further processing of the application to allowance.

Dated: July 29, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard M. Lehrer", written over a horizontal line.

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